

Appl. No. 10/679,699
Amdt. dated March 7, 2007
Reply to Office Action mailed September 7, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-46 (Canceled)

47. (New) A method of diagnosing or monitoring multiple sclerosis (MS) comprising the steps of:

(a) obtaining a biological sample from a patient;
(b) measuring the amount of one or more MS diagnostic compounds in the biological sample, the MS diagnostic compound(s) being:

- (i) a compound having a mass of about 175 as determined by liquid chromatography and mass spectrometry;
- (ii) a compound having a mass of about 145 as determined by liquid chromatography and mass spectrometry;
- (iii) aspartic acid-alanine diketopiperazine (DA-DKP);
- (iv) N-acetyl-alanine-serine diketopiperazine (NAS-DKP); or
- (v) two or more of the foregoing;

wherein:

the absence of compound (i), compound (ii) or both compounds (i) and (ii) from the biological sample is indicative of MS; and

an elevated amount of DA-DKP, NAS-DKP or both DA-DKP and NAS-DKP in the biological sample is indicative of active MS.

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48. (New) The method of Claim 47 wherein DA-DKP, NAS-DKP or both are measured.
49. (New) The method of Claim 47 wherein compound (i), compound (ii) or both are measured.
50. (New) The method of Claim 48 wherein compound (i), compound (ii) or both are measured.
51. (New) The method of Claims 47 wherein the biological sample is serum, plasma, blood or cerebrospinal fluid.
52. (New) The method of Claim 51, wherein the biological sample is plasma.
53. (New) The method of Claim 51, wherein the biological sample is serum.
54. (New) The method of any one of Claims 47-53 wherein step (b) is conducted by mass spectrometry, immunoassay or both.